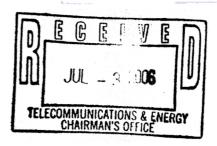
CTV 06-1 Comments



June 30, 2006

Judith Judson, Chair Department of Telecommunications & Energy One South Station Boston, MA 02111



Dear Chairwoman Judson:

The Massachusetts Business Roundtable (MBR) is a non-profit, nonpartisan, statewide organization of chief executive officers representing Massachusetts' leading industry and business enterprises. Our mission is promoting the economic and social vitality of Massachusetts by addressing critical infrastructure and policy issues, especially in the areas of health care, transportation, workforce training, and education reform.

MBR's agenda includes support for changes in regulations that will encourage further technology deployment and investment in communications infrastructure in the Commonwealth. This includes the proposal before the DTE in CTV 06-1 to streamline the cable franchising process in Massachusetts by creating a definitive timeline for negotiating local agreements. This proposal will bring the enormous benefits of competition to Massachusetts consumers and valuable improvements in cable services that are vital to our state's economy.

Health care, education, high technology and financial services now represent the main pillars of our state's new economy. Each of these sectors (along with tourism, retail, and government) increasingly need robust communications technology to compete in our global economy. Consumers will benefit from having choice in their cable provider, and businesses of all types will gain from the improved infrastructure deployed to offer competitive cable services.

Placing the capacity and capabilities of fiber optic technology at the doorsteps of Massachusetts consumers and businesses will be a winning component of the state's competitiveness agenda. We urge you to endorse the proposal to provide an efficient, streamlined cable franchising process to keep Massachusetts at the forefront of our new economy.

Thank you for the opportunity for MBR to be recorded on this matter.

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Sincerely,

Alan G. Macdonald Executive Director